

# River Mead School Parent Newsletter

## 03/03/2023



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*Our school latest news: <http://www.rivermead.wilts.sch.uk/news-dates/latest-news>*

*Our Twitter feed: [@TweetRiverMead](https://twitter.com/TweetRiverMead)*

*Find us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/River-Mead-School-728064724207622/>*

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## A message from Mrs Austin



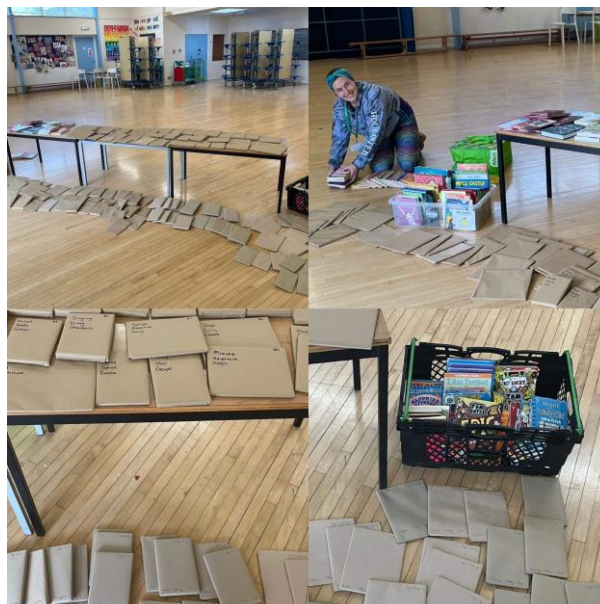
There were some great costumes and ideas for world book day - well done everyone! who took part and a HUGE thanks to the PTA 'Friends of River Mead School'(FORMS) who took donated books and wrapped them up writing a clue to the contents on the outside! I hope your child came and chose a mystery book from the selection on offer and enjoyed unwrapping their surprise!

Year 3 were busy out and about learning to "Walk-Safe" - they were all successful and learned how to cross the road safely, understand the dangers and passed their assessments!

Please be prepared for similar arrangements as those yesterday 2nd March for the teachers strike days on 15th & 16th March unless the government comes to an agreement with the unions prior to then and the strikes are called off! I will do my best to let you know details nearer then time.

I hope you have an enjoyable weekend

Mrs Austin



# Attendance

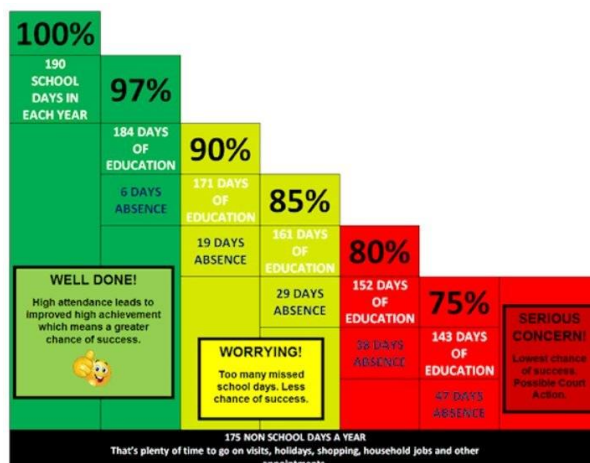


Every day your child misses school they miss valuable learning that is really hard for them to catch up - It is so important that they are in every single day they are not unwell.

There are still a considerable number of children who are **NOT** in school every day - please speak to us if there is something we can do to help

*week beginning 20.02.23 - 91.6% compared to national average of 94.8% ↓ on National but better than the week before!!*

Any term time holidays will be denied and any overall unauthorised absences that mean your child has accumulated 10 sessions will also be considered for a fine, this is a legal process and the school does not receive this money



## Easter Fuel Programme



FUEL is a free holiday activity and food project that offers children the opportunity to take part in a **range of fun activities** during school holiday periods in 2023. Participants will also be provided with a **nutritious meal on each day** that they attend.

The FUEL camps allow each participant to:

- eat healthily over the school holidays
- be active during the school holidays
- take part in engaging and enriching activities which support the development of resilience, character and wellbeing along with their wider educational attainment
- be safe and not to be socially isolated
- have a greater knowledge of health and nutrition

FUEL camps will run in 10 locations across Wiltshire, **Monday to Thursday (10am to 2pm), from Monday 3 April - Thursday 6 April.**

### What's on offer?

**Food Provision:** The lunchtime model for the core camps is improved, listening to previous participant feedback you'll no longer need to pick meals in advance as we are trialling a new 'feast model' approach.

Meaning a range of nutritious food will be available for participants to pick and choose what they would like to eat each day. We will also have the chefs and food experts available at lunchtime to guarantee participants are having a positive experience at lunchtime.

All dietary requirements and allergies will still be catered for, along with standard meal choices (such as jacket potatoes) so nobody goes hungry!

To view the menu in advance please visit the [FUEL webpage](#)

**Nutritional workshops:** Each participant will get an opportunity to take part in a nutritional workshop where they will get to learn and explore food and nutrition as well as a practical session to produce something tasty to take home.

For Easter FUEL we are bringing back a favourite for the participants to create a marshmallow Easter bunny to take home!

**Activities:** Every day is made up of fun and enriching structured activities to keep participants entertained and active whilst developing new skills and knowledge.

Participants will be split into age-appropriate groups and given a staff group leader who will guide them through a tailor-made timetable of activities delivered by session specific staff.

Activities over Easter FUEL will include a selection of creative, physical and hands on activities. All sessions are designed to build communication, team work, confidence and problem solving skills, but most importantly to have fun and discover new talents.

Example of activities on offer at Easter FUEL camps include circus skills, slime lab, sporting sessions and robot salvage.

You can apply for all four days or just the days you want to attend. Spaces are limited so please apply as soon as possible to avoid disappointment. All applications will be assessed and participants will receive a confirmation email if successful.

Please apply by completing the application form using the link below. If you have multiple children you will need to apply for each one separately. If you require any support with completing this form please speak to your school.

Please find your leaflet and parent/guardian information pack providing more details about the FUEL programme that you can share with your child.

For further information on camp locations, food provision, activities on offer and the nutritional workshops please visit <https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/leisure/fuel-programme>

[Click here to apply](#) no later than noon, Wednesday 22 March to take part in the Easter FUEL camps.

## Star of the Week



**Butterflies - Valeriia Shnaider**

**Dormice - Alice Edwards**

**Frogs - William Eanes**

**Hérons - Maximus-Rafael**

**Kestrels - Mia Ayliffe**

**Badgers - Gracie Plumb**

**Buzzards - Ben Brown**

**Bumble Bees - Sky Edmunds**

## Hot Chocolate with The Senior Leadership Team



**Well Done to those children who have gone 'above and beyond' this week with their attitude and behaviour, this week the Leadership Team will be welcoming the children for their hot chocolate**

**These children are:**

**Otters - Jenson Nealey**

**Dormice - Tia Thunga**

**Frogs - Eddie Plumb**

**Hérons - Chilli-Ray Edmunds**

**Kestrels - Ollie Brown**

**Badgers - Rowan Parker**

**Buzzards - Ersa Duli**

**Bumble Bees - Blakey Smith**

## Kingfisher Reading Challenge



**A big well done to those children who have completed the following reads:**

**Dormice**

50 reads - Freddie Hill

150 reads - Alora Brownsell

## **Kestrels**

100 reads - Murdoch Remington

125 reads - Rubie Cleverley

150 reads - Jasmine Kaur, Lillie-Marie Caven, Imogen Gould

## Writer of the Week



**Otters - Hendry Main woods**

**Dormice - Lola Brookbanks**

**Hérons - Freddie Dechuna**

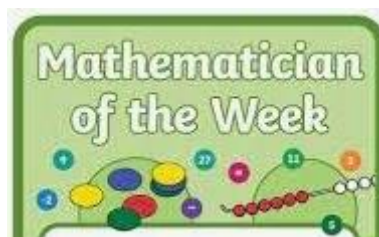
**Kestrels - Rosie Allum**

**Badgers - Sienna Porter**

**Buzzards - Lillie Goddard**

**Bumble Bees - Carl Gillet**

## Mathematician of the Week



**Otters - Cillian Jenkins**

**Dormice - Ayan Lordache**

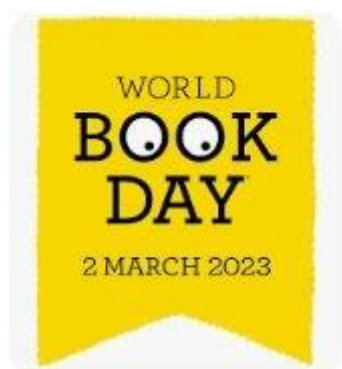
**Hérons - Molly Welch**

**Kestrels - Gracie Wheeler**

**Badgers - Ruby Smith**

**Buzzards - Paddy Tomney**

## World Book Day



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*What a great Book Day we had!*

*Children will be coming home with World Book Day Vouchers today! These are valid until 23 March 2023. There is a selection of books available which are detailed on the back of the voucher.*

*There are some amazing books on offer, so get yours quick before they run out!!*

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## On-Line Safety Advice

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*What Parents and Carers Need to Know about NGL*

*NGL is another of those 'bolt-on' apps which is designed to work alongside a major social media network. In this instance, the 'host' platforms are Instagram and Twitter – with NGL (meaning, as you may have surmised, 'Not Gonna Lie') inviting a user's friends and followers to ask them questions anonymously. An intriguing novelty, perhaps – but also not without risk.*

*Human nature being what it is, some people take the smokescreen of online anonymity as an excuse to behave in ways that they certainly wouldn't if their identity were visible. The idea of exposing young social media users to anonymous messages is one which understandably concerns many parents: our #WakeUpWednesday guide brings you the facts about NGL. This free online safety guide looks at NGL – an anonymous messaging app.*

*This guide will highlight a number of potential risks including oversharing, cyber-bullying and potentially costly subscription fees.*

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## Butterflies Nursery



Nursery staff would like to ask all parents to remember the following:

- appropriate footwear and clothing for all weather conditions
- to bring in a water bottle every day
- spare clothes, nappies and wipes if required

If anyone has any spare clothes lying around that you would like to get rid of, the nursery team will gladly take them from you!

## Friends of River Mead

Hello from the Friends of River Mead!

The Friends would just like to thank everyone who donated books for the World Book Day book stall! Once again we are blown away by the generosity and spirit from our grownups and children.

We would also like to remind everyone to get their entries for the International Women's Day competition in by Monday 6th. Please hand these along with the 50p entry fee to your class teacher. The winner will be announced in assembly Friday 10th! We can't wait to see them

To find out more about the Friends of River Mead or to volunteer at future events find us here:

Email: [rivermeadfriends@gmail.com](mailto:rivermeadfriends@gmail.com)

Facebook: Friends of River Mead School

Instagram: [@friendsfrivermead](https://www.instagram.com/friendsfrivermead)

# Family & Community Learning

## FAMILY HELP SURVEY

? Are you a parent or parent to be?  
 ? Are you a young person who needs help and advice?  
 ? Do you know how you can find out information on help available for you and your family?

We want to hear your views on family services and how you'd best like to access them. Please take this short survey and help us shape services for the future.

Web link: [survey.wiltshire.gov.uk/snapwebhost/s.asp?k=167422754796](https://survey.wiltshire.gov.uk/snapwebhost/s.asp?k=167422754796)

**Wiltshire Council**

### What's Happening - FREE!

Wiltshire Children's Centres providing support and services for families with children aged 0-5. Free of charge for all families.

Use your mobile to scan the QR code to access the website

[www.wiltshirechildrenscentres.org](http://www.wiltshirechildrenscentres.org)

Give us a call on 0800 970 4669 for more information or to book your space

**Family Support Service**

One to one support when you need it most for a range of issues which can affect family life:

- Parenting and behaviour
- Routines and boundaries
- Children's emotional support
- Financial and budgeting support
- Childcare funding
- Back to work
- Introductions to other services

Appointments can be via the phone or at the centre.

**Baby Steps**

A programme covering the weeks just before and after having your baby (speak to your Health professional about a referral).

**Baby Massage**

For parents and their non-mobile babies. Join us for 4 weeks learning how to encourage bonding and communication through soothing touch.

**New Parent New Baby**

Meet other parents with babies up to 6 months old and share activity ideas. Sessions run for 6 weeks.

**Sensory Room**

Available for children under 5 years old or for children under 11 with additional needs. 30 minute sensory room appointments are available in each of our children's centres.

Find us on Facebook for regular updates  
 Wiltshire Children's Centres  
 Website: [www.wiltshirechildrenscentres.org.uk](http://www.wiltshirechildrenscentres.org.uk)

**Five to Thrive**

Five to Thrive is the simple things that you can do to connect with your child and build a strong relationship. Join us for 5 fun sessions to support you with this.

**Bookstart**

Sharing books, stories and rhymes with your child from an early age can help create a love of reading. Bookstart is here to guide you on your child's reading journey from 0-5 years. 4 week course.

**Being a Parent**

This 8 week course helps parents learn practical communication skills for everyday life to bring up confident, happy and co-operative children. For parents with children 2 years and over.

**One off Events**

Over the year we plan events such as:

- **Mighty Me** - Self Care and Independence
- **Mighty Mind** - Emotions and Feelings
- **Mighty Movers** - Physical Play
- **Top Tips for Teeth** - Top tips for tiny teeth

See facebook for upcoming sessions.

**Early Words Together**

A 5 week course full of fun for you and your child. Learn about how to support your child's speech and language development. For families with children aged 20-40 months.

**Play and Connect/Scrapstore/Baby Sensory and more!**

We are running a variety of different sessions to enable families to meet together in your local area. Please contact us for details.

**Healthy Eating**

A 4-week healthy eating course with lots of fun activities around healthy eating, budgeting and food safety. PLUS! Take home ingredients for a healthy meal.

All our sessions and support are free of charge for families in Wiltshire.

Give us a call on 0800 970 4669 for more information or to book your space

## School Term & Holiday Dates

School holidays are important to all of us! To help you plan for some family time we have put together the School Term & Holiday Calendar for 2022 - 2023. You can find this by clicking on the link below.

<https://www.themeadtrust.org/news-and-dates/term-dates/>

Teacher Training Days for next academic year 2022/2023 are:

5th June 2023

## PE timetable - Please see changes below

### PE Days

On PE days children should come in wearing their PE kit to avoid changing at school.

Badgers - Monday

Dormice & Frogs - Tuesday

Hérons & Kestrels - - Wednesday

Otters - Thursday - please remember no Logos, plain white t-shirt if you don't have a coloured one.

Buzzards - Thursday

Bumble Bees (Beehive) - Monday

Honey Bees / Busy Bees (Beehive)- Friday

## Dates to Remember



**March**

14th March - School Photo's

27th March - Year 6 Residential Parent Meeting

28th March - Y3 Church visit

28th March - Year 5 Residential Parent Meeting

31st March - End of Term 4

17th April - Term 5 Begins

## What's on



**boomkids**

Meet the Experts is back with a brand new series and looking for expert children to take part!

Does your child have an interesting hobby that they are extremely passionate about?

Would they like to showcase their talent and expertise on Channel 5's Milkshake?

We want to hear from entertaining and outgoing children between 7-9yrs old, of all different backgrounds and abilities.

For more information please email: [MTE@boomcymru.co.uk](mailto:MTE@boomcymru.co.uk) or call: 07436 097767

Call to this number only from mobile. Please contact your provider for extra details. The services are available from all networks. All calls are subject to standard network charges. Please see provider for restrictions. In accordance with the privacy policy of the company. (available on our website). Due to the high volume of responses, we cannot reply to everyone.

**milkshake!**

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